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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/643,621

08/22/2000

Farzad Hiri

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06/17/2005

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EXAMINER

ELAHEE, MD S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2645

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/643,621	Applicant(s) HIRI ET AL.	
	Examiner Md S. Elahee	Art Unit 2645	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03/01/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-19 and 21-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-19 and 21-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This action is responsive to an amendment filed on 03/01/05. Claims 1-7, 9-19 and 21-35 are pending. Claims 25-35 have been added

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7, 9-19 and 21-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13-16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gregorek et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,557,658) in view of Casellini (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,860).

Regarding claims 1 and 13, Gregorek teaches establishing a first call link between the called party device and a first calling party device (abstract; col.3, lines 61-67, col.4, lines 1-29, col.8, lines 26-67, col.9, lines 1-4).

Gregorek further teaches receiving a call request to the called party from a second calling party (abstract; col.3, lines 61-67, col.4, lines 1-29, col.8, lines 26-67, col.9, lines 1-4, col.15, lines 32-56).

Art Unit: 2645

Gregorek further teaches placing the first call link on hold (abstract; col.4, lines 4-8, col.15, lines 32-56, col.16, lines 20-45).

Gregorek further teaches accepting the call request from the second calling party device to establish a second call link between the called party device and the second calling party device (abstract; col.3, lines 61-67, col.4, lines 1-29, col.8, lines 26-67, col.9, lines 1-4, col.15, lines 32-56, col.16, lines 20-45).

Gregorek further teaches causing, through signaling the switch 22 (i.e., selective activation) by the user of the called party device, an announcement to the first calling party device, the step of causing an announcement to the first calling party device comprising one of a plurality of customized announcements (i.e., predefined messages) using an input mechanism associated with the called party device while the called party is in communication with the second calling party, whereby the user of the called party device can communicate information to a user of the first calling party device without interrupting communications with a user of the second calling party device (abstract; col.3, lines 61-67, col.4, lines 1-29, col.8, lines 26-67, col.9, lines 1-4, col.15, lines 32-56, col.16, lines 20-45, col.19, line 53-col.20, line 14; 'announcement' reads on the claim 'message to be transmitted').

However, Gregorek does not specifically teach "the step of causing an announcement to the first calling party device comprising the step of the user selecting one of a plurality of predefined messages". Casellini teaches the step of causing an announcement to the first calling party device comprising the step of the user selecting one of a plurality of predefined messages (fig.4A-6; col.3, lines 64-67, col.4, lines 1, 2, 14-27, 42-67, col.1-22, 25-40). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify

Art Unit: 2645

Gregorek to allow the step of causing an announcement to the first calling party device comprising the step of the user selecting one of a plurality of predefined messages as taught by Casellini. The motivation for the modification is to have doing so in order to give the caller a personal message from a called party.

Regarding claims 2, 14 and 26, Gregorek teaches the message instructing the user of the first calling party device to hold (abstract; col.3, lines 61-67, col.4, lines 1-29, col.8, lines 26-67, col.9, lines 1-4, col.15, lines 32-56, col.16, lines 20-45).

Regarding claims 3, 15 and 27, Gregorek teaches the message instructing the user of the first calling party device that the call link to the called party device will be disconnected (abstract; col.3, lines 61-67, col.4, lines 1-29, col.16, lines 20-45).

Regarding claims 4, 16 and 28, Gregorek teaches the message automatically causing the first call link to be terminated (fig.3; col.4, lines 1-29, col.11, lines 60-67, col.12, lines 1-5, col.15, lines 32-56, col.16, lines 20-45).

Regarding claims 6, 18 and 30, Gregorek teaches that the first calling party device to be connected to a message generator associated with the user of the called party device (col.4, lines 1-29, col.9, lines 46-54, col.15, lines 32-56, col.16, lines 20-45; 'message generator' reads on the claim 'messaging system').

Regarding claims 7, 19 and 31, Gregorek teaches the message comprising a prerecorded voice message (col.11, lines 16-31, col.15, lines 32-56, col.16, lines 20-45).

Regarding claims 9, 21 and 32, Gregorek fails to teach "generating a text message using an input mechanism associated with said called party device". Casellini teaches generating a text message using an input mechanism associated with the called party device (abstract; fig.6; col.4,

Art Unit: 2645

line 41-col.5, line 40). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gregorek to allow generating a text message using an input mechanism as taught by Casellini. The motivation for the modification is to have the generation in order to provide transmitted characters which make up the body of a message.

Regarding claims 10, 22 and 33, Gregorek fails to teach “converting said text message to speech”. Casellini teaches converting the text message to speech (col.5, lines 17-21). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gregorek to allow converting the text message to speech as taught by Casellini. The motivation for the modification is to have the conversion in order to produce audio message for the caller.

Regarding claim 25 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, Gregorek teaches a first calling party station (i.e., first remote telephony device) (abstract; col.3, lines 61-67, col.4, lines 1-29).

5. Claims 5, 17 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gregorek et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,557,658) in view of Casellini (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,860) further in view of Rogers et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,946,386).

Regarding claims 5, 17 and 29, Gregorek in view of Casellini does not specifically teach “said message instructs said user of said first calling party device to leave a message”. Rogers teaches that the message instructs the first calling party device to leave a message (col.13, lines 40-44). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gregorek in view of Casellini to allow message instructing the

Art Unit: 2645

user of the first calling party device to leave a message as taught by Rogers. The motivation for the modification is to have doing so in order to store the message for the later retrieval.

6. Claims 11, 23 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gregorek et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,557,658) in view of Casellini (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,860) further in view of Tatchell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,160,877).

Regarding claims 11, 23 and 34, Gregorek in view of Casellini does not specifically teach “call links between said called party device and said calling party devices are established through a packet-switched communications network”. Tatchell teaches that the signaling link is established through a packet switched network (col.6, lines 51-60; ‘signaling link’ reads on the claim ‘call links between said called party device and said calling party devices’ and ‘packet switched network’ reads on the claim ‘packet-switched communications network’). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gregorek in view of Casellini to allow call links be established through a packet-switched communications network as taught by Tatchell. The motivation for the modification is to have the packet-switched communications network in order to carry data in the form of packets.

7. Claims 12, 24 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gregorek et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,557,658) in view of Casellini (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,860) further in view of Tatchell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,160,877) further in view of Zhakov et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0021264).

Regarding claims 12, 24 and 35, Gregorek in view of Casellini further in view of Tatchell fails to teach “call links are established using an Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Session

Art Unit: 2645

Initiation Protocol (SIP)". Zhakov teaches that call links are established using a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) (page no.3, paragraphs 0034-0035; 'Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)' reads on the claim 'an Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)'). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gregorek in view of Casellini further in view of Tatchell to allow call links be established using a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) as taught by Zhakov. The motivation for the modification is to have the Session Initiation Protocol for creating, modifying and terminating communication sessions with one or more participants.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Burg (U.S. Patent No. 6,219,413) teach Apparatus and method for called-party telephone messaging while interconnected to a data network and Moore et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,724,872) teach Personalized messages over Internet call waiting.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Md S. Elahee whose telephone number is (571) 272-7536. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon to Fri from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.


Art Unit: 2645

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

M.E.

MD SHAFIUL ALAM ELAHEE

June 8, 2005



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